

## Message Text

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ORIGIN LAB-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SIL-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10  
EUR-12 NEA-10 SP-02 L-03 SIG-03 MMO-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 NSAE-00 /098 R

DRAFTED BY DOL;TLINSENMAIER:OF  
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES  
S/IL:DGOOD  
EA:DHARRIS  
EUR:DGOOTT  
NEA/RA:GLICH  
AF:MCCHESSES  
ARA:JO'GRADY  
L/UNA:AKRECKZO  
S/P:CHUME

-----104194 160651Z /11

R 160132Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ILO

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENTS

1. ON AUGUST 10, 1978, CABINET LEVEL COMMITTEE ON THE ILO (CLC) REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO ILO. AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW, CLC AGREED THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONTINUE TO MONITOR ILO WHILE AT THE SAME TIME TAKING A NUMBER OF POSITIVE STEPS DESIGNED TO COMMUNICATE TO ILO MEMBERS OUR HOPE THAT FURTHER PROGRESS CAN BE MADE ON MAJOR ILO ISSUES.

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2. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT IMEC POSTS, AT THEIR DISCRETION, PASS FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO HOST GOVERNMENTS AND RESPOND AS APPROPRIATE, TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY KEY EMPLOYER AND TRADE UNION OFFICIALS OF HOST COUNTRY. FOR OTHER POSTS, THIS TELEGRAM IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND USE AS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO ADVISE

DEPARTMENT OF ANY REACTIONS WITH INFO COPY US MISSION  
GENEVA.

3. IN MAKING CALLS, POSTS MAY DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING  
POINTS:

(A) AT THE DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT, THE CLC HAS  
CONTINUED TO FOLLOW WITH INTEREST ILO DEVELOPMENTS. CLC  
MET ON AUGUST 10 TO REVIEW RESULTS OF 64TH SESSION OF  
INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE HELD IN GENEVA JUNE 7-28,  
1978.

(B) CLC MEMBERS ENCOURAGED BY MANNER IN WHICH CONFERENCE  
ADDRESSED SEVERAL IMPORTANT ISSUES. CONFERENCE ADOPTION  
OF REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS  
AND RECOMMENDATIONS (CACR) CONTAINING EXPLICIT RECOGNITION  
OF UNIVERSAL STANDARD FOR EVALUATION OF APPLICATION  
OF ILO LABOR CONVENTIONS (I.E., NO DOUBLE STANDARD)  
REPRESENTS HELPFUL STEP TOWARD STRENGTHENING ILO HUMAN  
RIGHTS MACHINERY. FAILURE OF CONFERENCE TO ADOPT  
POLITICALLY-INSPIRED AND INAPPROPRIATE RESOLUTION SIMILAR-  
LY SUGGESTS PROGRESS CAN BE MADE TOWARD RESTORING RESPECT  
FOR DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES IN ILO, ALTHOUGH INITIAL  
APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION IN COMMITTEE DEMONSTRATES THAT  
VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS STILL POSSIBLE IN ILO. FYI:  
RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SYRIA AND LIBYA WOULD HAVE EX-  
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TENDED LIFE OF 1974 RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL FOR  
ANOTHER FIVE YEARS. RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED IN CONFERENCE  
COMMITTEE BUT DEFEATED IN PLENARY BECAUSE TACTIC OF LARGE  
NUMBER OF ABSTENTIONS AND ABSENCES RESULTED IN LACK OF  
QUORUM. END FYI.

(C) CLC RECOGNIZED THAT OTHER ISSUES OF BASIC INTEREST  
TO THE UNITED STATES ARE NOT YET FULLY RESOLVED AND WILL  
REQUIRE FURTHER REVIEW. THESE INCLUDE (1) CONTINUING  
DISCUSSIONS OF PROPOSALS TO CHANGE THE STRUCTURE OF THE  
ILO, IN PARTICULAR THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF THE  
GOVERNING BODY; (2) 1979 CACR REVIEW OF VIOLATIONS OF ILO  
HUMAN RIGHTS CONVENTIONS, SUCH AS FORCED LABOR (1978  
CONFERENCE WAS AN "OFF-YEAR" FOR MOST HUMAN RIGHTS CASES  
UNDER CACR TWO-YEAR REVIEW CYCLE), AND PROPOSED REVIEW OF  
ILO HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION BY A  
WORKING PARTY OF 1979 CACR; AND (3) FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS  
RELATING TO DUE PROCESS, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF PROPOSED  
AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17 OF CONFERENCE STANDING ORDERS  
(WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH MACHINERY TO SCREEN OUT PROPOSED  
RESOLUTIONS WHICH ARE EITHER POLITICALLY INSPIRED OR WHICH  
VIOLATE DUE PROCESS) AND FURTHER ACTION ON ALLEGATIONS RE-

LATING TO ISRAELI APPLICATION OF CONVENTION 111 (DIS-CRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT).

(D) CLC AGREED THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONTINUE TO MONITOR ILO DEVELOPMENTS AND REQUESTED ITS CHAIRMAN,

SECRETARY OF LABOR MARSHALL, TO ISSUE A STATEMENT TO BE RELEASED IN WASHINGTON ON AUGUST 17 (FRENCH AND SPANISH TEXTS OF STATEMENT BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL). BEGIN TEXT.

"AT THE TIME THAT THE UNITED STATES WITHDREW FROM MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION IN NOVEMBER 1977, THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT 'THE US REMAINS READY TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RETURN WHENEVER THE THE ILO IS AGAIN TRUE TO ITS PROPER PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES.'

WE HAVE CONTINUED TO FOLLOW WITH INTEREST ILO DEVELOPMENTS. THIS INTEREST REFLECTS OUR CONTINUING HOPE THAT ILO MEMBERS WILL UNDERTAKE THOSE CORRECTIVE MEASURES TO RESTORE THE ORGANIZATION'S COMMITMENT TO ITS ORIGINAL PURPOSES.

AT THE 64TH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE THIS PAST JUNE, SOME IMPORTANT ISSUES WERE ADDRESSED IN A MANNER WHICH GIVES THE UNITED STATES ENCOURAGEMENT. OTHER ILO ISSUES OF BASIC INTEREST TO THE UNITED STATES ARE NOT YET FULLY RESOLVED AND REQUIRE FURTHER REVIEW.

WE HOPE A POSITIVE TREND WILL CONTINUE SO THAT A FIRM AND AFFIRMATIVE JUDGMENT CAN BE MADE THAT OUR CONCERNS HAVE BEEN APPROPRIATELY RESOLVED.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT WITH ILO MEMBERS WHICH SHARE OUR CONCERNS AND WHICH ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD THE GOAL OF RE-CREATING THE ILO AS AN ORGANIZATION ONCE AGAIN ABLE TO PLAY ITS PROPER ROLE IN HELPING TO IMPROVE THE WELL BEING OF WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD." END TEXT.

4. FOR OTTAWA, REQUEST EMBASSY ADD SPECIAL NOTE OF APPRECIATION FOR EFFORTS OF CANADIAN DELEGATION, IN PARTICULAR JOHN MAINWARING WHO, AS IMEC SPOKESMAN, PROVIDED MAJOR IMPETUS FOR SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE. US ALSO NOTED EFFORTS OF LUCILLE CARON IN IMPORTANT CACR ACTIVITIES.

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5. FOR LONDON, REQUEST EMBASSY CALL ATTENTION TO  
VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION OF DAVID HODGKINS AND WILLIAM JAMES.

6. FOR COPENHAGEN, DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY  
ACKNOWLEDGING HELPFUL ROLE PLAYED BY AMBASSADOR KASTOFT,  
WHO SPEARHEADED IMEC EFFORTS ON SEVERAL KEY ISSUES. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** MONITORING, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Draft Date:** 16 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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